

APPRECIATION FOR THE EX-MAYOR AND MAYORESS

Blackpool Council places on record its appreciation of the duties undertaken by Councillor Ian Coleman, as Mayor of Blackpool.

The Blackpool mayoralty again maintained its status as a busy one this year with a variety of civic engagements.

Ian and Mavis began the mayoral year with the Royal Garden Party in London and opened the World Dance Championships at the Winter Gardens.

Throughout the year they attended many high profile local events such as the Pride Launch, Lytham Proms and the Manchester to Blackpool Car Run. Ian and Mavis were fortunate to meet international celebrity Will Smith and also met with Simon Cowell, Ant and Dec and the Britain's Got Talent crew.

Blackpool still attracts a large number of conferences and the Mayor and Mayoress attended a variety of annual gatherings such as; National Pensioners Convention, UK Bus Driver of the Year Awards, WMCIU, Royal Pigeon Racing Association and USDAW Congress, to name a few.

Many Ex-Service organisations still hold their annual reunions in Blackpool and Ian and Mavis attended reunions of the Canal Zoners, the Royal Artillery Association, Aden Veterans, the Royal Air Force Association and the HMS Penelope Association. National Armed Forces Week, during June, was again a great success attracting thousands of visitors to the town and the Mayor and Mayoress attended a variety of events during the week.

In July, the Mayor and Mayoress were able to welcome The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment to the town for the Freedom of the Borough ceremony and parade, a very prestigious event for Blackpool.

The Mayor took great pleasure in welcoming our new citizens to the town at the many very popular Citizenship Ceremonies that were held throughout the year.

This year, the Mayor chose Blackpool Carers Centre and Blackpool Royal British Legion Club as his charities and raised just over £20,000 this mayoral year.

A special reference has to be made to the Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress, Gary and Debbie, for their support and contribution to this mayoral year and to Rev Augusta Gibrill who acted as Mayor's Chaplain and has assisted at Council meetings and other civic events.

This appreciation would not be complete without particular reference to the Mayoress, Mavis, who supported Ian in his role.

To Ian and Mavis, Blackpool Council places on record its sincere appreciation of their services as Mayor and Mayoress.